

Remarks

Claims 3 and 5-24 are pending in the present application. No claims have been added, amended, or canceled.

Drawings

Examiner Chawan is sincerely thanked for approving the new corrected drawings.

Allowable Subject Matter

Examiner Chawan is sincerely thanked for indicating that claims 3, 6-17, and 20-22 contain allowable subject matter.

Claim Rejection

Claims 5, 18, 19, 23, and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,099,435 to Collins et al. (hereinafter "Collins"). Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections.

Claim 5 recites providing a predetermined frequency distribution and randomly altering a shape of the first shaped character according at least partially to the frequency distribution. Claim 18 recites creating a first frequency distribution, and claim 19 recites randomly altering a shape of the first shaped character according at least partially to the first frequency distribution.

Collins does not teach, disclose, or suggest these features. The passage of Collins that was cited in the Office Action, col. 6, lines 1-35, reads:

As stated above, the mapping of a character outline from a high resolution form to a lower resolution form is a complex task. With great frequency, features of the outline will not fall directly on available pixels but will, instead, fall between them. This is a direct consequence, of course, of a substantial reduction of resolution from the 8640.times.8640 line em-square. Consider, for example, the left stem 22 of the letter "m"

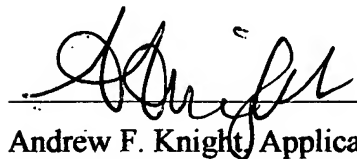
in FIG. 1. Ideally, the width of the stem might be as represented at brace 24. However, due to the coarseness of the display resolution, it may not be possible to display a segment of that precise width. There are only two alternatives: the stem 22 may be wider or it may be narrower. In the extreme, the choice may have to be made between using one pixel or no pixels (possibly losing the feature entirely, or at least somewhat altering its shape). Thus in FIG. 1, if each box 25 represents one pixel, the stem 22 may be made two pixels wide, as shown by the brace 26, or it may be only one pixel wide. And at the lowest resolutions, curves become virtually non existent and straight lines dominate. FIG. 2 shows another series of illustrations which demonstrate the inverse relationship between the quality of a digital type image and the output resolution of the output. In FIG. 2(a), the images 31 and 32 were set at 96 points on a 650 dots-per-inch (dpi) output device; the images appear virtually analog to the naked eye. More and more typographic detail is lost as the digital bitmap becomes coarser. FIG. 2(b) shows the same characters at 33 and 34, set at eight points on the same 650 dpi display. At twelve points on a 300 dpi display, the corresponding images 35 and 36 are shown in FIG. 2(c). Finally, at six points on a 300 dpi display, the images are as presented at 37 and 38 in FIG. 2(d), where a great deal of the detail of the analog form has been lost.

This passage does not mention or suggest providing a predetermined frequency distribution and randomly altering a shape of a shaped character. In fact, the only mention of "frequency" is in the phrase "with great frequency," which, when read in context, simply means "often."

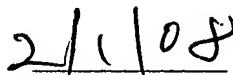
Therefore, because Collins does not teach, disclose, or suggest the recitations of claims 5, 18, 19, 23, and 24, these claims are believed to be patentable over Collins. Withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

If Examiner Chawan believes that a telephone conference will further prosecution of the present case, please contact Applicant at the number indicated below.

Respectfully,



Andrew F. Knight Applicant



Date

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